

## Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park



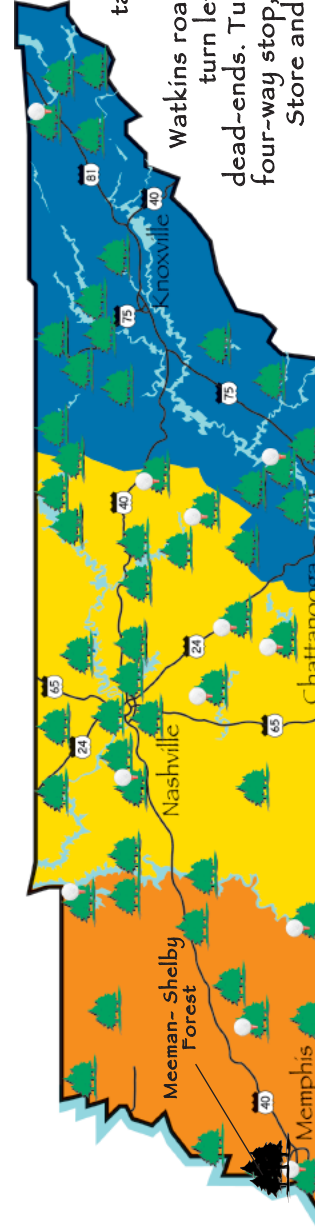


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From Interstate 40, take exit 2-A, turn right, go 6 stoplights to Watkins road (this is Highway 388), turn left and go until the road dead-ends. Turn left, go one mile to a four-way stop, Shelby Forest General Store and turn right, go one mile, turn left into the park.

**Hours of Operation:**  
7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**For Further Information or Reservations, Contact:**

Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park / 910 Riddick Road / Millington, TN 38053  
Phone (901) 876-5215 or toll-free (800) 471-5293

**Or Contact:**

Tennessee State Parks / 401 Church St., 7th Floor / Nashville, TN 37243  
Phone (888) 867-2757 / [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)



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## TENNESSEE STATE PARKS MEEMAN-SHELBY FOREST STATE PARK



BEST IN THE NATION







## Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park

is a 13,000-acre hardwood bottomland area bordering the mighty Mississippi River 13 miles north of Memphis. Most of the park is mature Bald Cypress and Tupelo swamp where there is great opportunity for hunting. Most of the facilities are on top of the majestic Chickasaw Bluffs, formed from wind-blown silt deposited in ancient times that rise from the bottomlands and are covered with large oaks, American beech, hickory, and sweet gum. Wildlife such as deer, turkey, otter, beaver, foxes, and bobcats are plentiful throughout the forest. Over 200 species of songbirds, waterfowl, shorebirds, and birds of prey, including the American Bald Eagle can be seen; the area is a favorite for bird-watchers.

## Historical significance

The park was named in part for the late Edward J. Meeman, the courageous conservation editor of Scripps-Howard newspapers who was instrumental in establishing this site. The creation of the park was rooted in the idea that the area would be a preserve for flora and fauna where people could view and enjoy a wilderness so close to Memphis.

## Cabins

Meeman-Shelby has six two-bedroom vacation cabins situated along the shore of Poplar Tree Lake. They are ideal for family vacations and fishing trips and can sleep up to six. Picnic tables and grills are located outside for outdoor enjoyment by the lake. Make advance reservations at the Visitors Center.

## Gift Shop

The park's gift shop has Tennessee handicrafts, books on area history, wildlife and plant guides, t-shirts and hats.

## Meeting Rooms

The park has a 1250 sq. ft. meeting room available with tables and chairs to seat 50. It is handicap accessible. It is available year-round. Reservations need to be made in advance.

## Camping

The park campground contains 49 beautiful, wooded sites; each equipped with a picnic table, grill, and 20/30/50 amp electrical and water hook-ups. The sites can accommodate up to 40-foot RVs. A modern bathhouse provides hot showers, lavatories and commodes. There is a dump station for self-contained trailer rigs.

A primitive campground is available to scout groups and a discount is available with a service project.

Reservations may be made up to a year in advance. The campgrounds are open year-round.

## Group Camp

The park's group camp, located on 25-acre Piersol Lake, can accommodate up to 140 people. Available from April through October, the camp is rented by the week only during the summer months, and on weekends at other times. A deposit is required; reservations should be made well in advance.

## Bike Trails

A beautiful 3-mile paved bike trail meanders through heavy forest, and can accommodate strollers and wheelchairs.

## Hiking

The park has over 18 miles of heavily wooded hiking trails ranging from moderate to very rugged. Trail and topography maps are available at the Visitors Center.



## Picnic Shelters and Playgrounds

Scattered throughout the park are 300 picnic tables and grills. Each is conveniently located near restrooms, water fountains and playgrounds. Several picnic shelters and an air-conditioned building that can accommodate 100 people are available for rent from April to October.

## Boating

The park has a free launch ramp on the Mississippi River, and a year-round boat ramp on 125-acre Poplar Tree Lake, with Johnboats available for rent at the park boat dock from March through November. Personally owned boats with electric motor are allowed on the lakes for a small launch fee, but gasoline motors are not allowed.

## Fishing

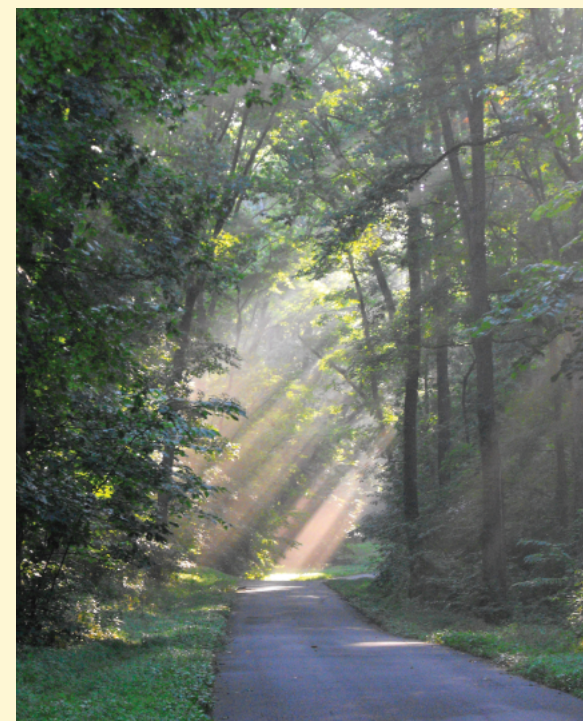
Year-round fishing is available on the Mississippi River and the park's two lakes. Some outstanding largemouth bass, bream, and crappie have been taken from the picturesque Poplar Tree Lake. A park fishing permit is required, in addition to a valid Tennessee Fishing License.

## Nature Center

Our Nature Center is open from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, by appointment in other seasons, and is stocked with live birds, reptile, amphibian and fish exhibits, natural history displays, and wildlife guides.

## Planned Programs

Regular programs such as guided hikes, pontoon boat trips, deep swamp canoe trips, live raptor and reptile programs are offered from May through September. These programs plus Long Hunter programs, Civil War programs, special arts and crafts, organized games and more are offered and available for groups.



## Swimming

The park has a beautiful outdoor swimming pool as well as a large wading pool for children. The pool is open early summer through mid-August, and lifeguards are on duty during swimming hours.

## Frisbee Golf Course

The park has one of the largest and most beautiful Frisbee Golf Courses in the Southeast. Frisbee golf accessories are available at stores near the park.

## Other Nearby State Parks

- T.O. Fuller State Park, 30 miles

## Annual Events

- Guided deep swamp canoe floats are held every Sunday from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend.
- A guided 1.5-mile hike is held every Saturday from Memorial Day to Labor Day weekends.
- Meeman-Shelby Forest Kid's Fishing Rodeo, June, on TWRA FREE Fishing Day
- Meeman-Shelby Forest James Logan Colbert Rendezvous, end of October